

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN DAVE KASTEN**, on February 13, 2003 at 8:30 A.M., in Room 350 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Dave Kasten, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Tom Zook, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Christine Kaufmann (D)  
Sen. Jon Tester (D)  
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)  
Rep. John Witt (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Bob Keenan (R)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Catherine Duncan, Legislative Branch  
Jane Hamman, OBPP  
CJ Johnson, Committee Secretary

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 5 - DEPARTMENT OF FISH,  
WILDLIFE, & PARKS

Executive Action: None

**HB 5 LRBP HEARING ON DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, & PARKS**

***{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 1.9}***

Jane Hamman, OBPP, distributed an amendment that reduces available funds for FWP.

**EXHIBIT(jlh32a01)**

**CHAIRMAN KASTEN** said that since this amendment moves money from one department to another, he would like Jeff Hagner to speak to that amendment.

***{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 1.9 - 6.2}***

**Jeff Hagner, Department of Fish, Wildlife, & Parks (FWP)**, explained the amendment in relation to FWP and MDT. He went over the impact of the amendment on FWP and the history of their funding from the last biennium.

**Doug Munger, Administrator for Parks**, stated that they were counting on that funding and had planned their budget accordingly. He distributed a handout that lists tentative projects that could be cut should the funding requests be reduced.

**EXHIBIT(jlh32a02)**

***{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 6.2 - 8.4}***

**Mr. Munger** added that one project not listed, that would be affected by the reduced funding, is the county connecting road at the Tongue River. He said that the cost-share side is not shown on Exhibit 2. Mr. Munger said that the cost of that project is \$200,000.

**REP. KAUFMANN** asked for clarification on the amendment. She observed that if the Committee accepts the amendment, those projects will not be funded. If they do not accept the amendment, DOT is unhappy. **Jane Hamman** answered that REP. KAUFMANN should raise those questions during their presentation.

***{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 8.4 - 30}***

***{Tape: 1; Side: B}***

***{Tape: 2; Side: A}***

***{Tape: 2; Side: B}***

**Jeff Hagner** distributed a handout that followed his Power Point presentation (Exhibit 3). He said that Major Maintenance/Repair projects total \$10.1 million; Habitat Improvements total \$4.3 million; Land Protection totals \$7.7 million and Recreation Grants total \$5.2 million. The presentation took the majority of the time of the hearing. The Committee asked questions throughout the presentation for clarification.

**EXHIBIT (j1h32a03)**

**Mr. Hagner** used the presentation to tie in with and explain the project requests in the Governor's Budget Book, Long Range Building Program, Volume 3. He referred to the following pages and statewide priority number:

- Page 66 (statewide project #17), Future Fisheries
- Page 68 (sp #18), Fishing Access Site (FAS) Maintenance
- Page 70 (sp #19), FAS Site Protection
- Page 73 (sp #20), FAS Acquisition
- Page 75 (sp #21), Hatchery Maintenance
- Page 78 (sp #22), Community Fishing Ponds
- Page 81 (sp #23), FWP Dams Repair
- Page 84 (sp #24), Habitat Montana
- Page 86 (sp #25), Upland Game Bird Program
- Page 88 (sp #26), Wildlife Habitat Maintenance
- Page 90 (sp #27), Migratory Bird Stamp Program
- Page 92 (sp #28), Bighorn Sheep
- Page 94 (sp #29), Motorboat Recreation
- Page 97 (sp #30), Cultural and Historical Parks
- Page 100 (sp #31), LWCF Grants
- Page 103 (sp #32), Federal Trails Grants
- Page 106 (sp #33), Off-Highway Vehicles Trails Grants
- Page 108 (sp #34), Federal Wallop/Breaux Program
- Page 111 (sp #35), Admin. Facilities Repair & Maintenance
- Page 114 (sp #36), MT Wildlife Rehab & Nature Center Cmplx

**{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 5.9}**

**CHAIRMAN KASTEN** asked where the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center will be built. **Mr. Hagner** answered that the property is on Spring Meadow by the lake, off of Euclid and Highway 12.

**REP. WITT** asked about the status of the negotiations on the roads out of Fort Peck and Winnett. **Tom Riley, Parks Division**, explained what he had heard about the status.

**{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 5.9 - 12}**

**Bob Raney** suggested that he would like to see the funds moved by policy instead of a bill. He expressed his concerns about the

movement of funds and the determination of where they would be moved to.

**{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 12 - 17.3}**

**CHAIRMAN KASTEN** asked about the FTE for the Rehab Center. **Jeff Hagner** said that there are other possible sources of funding, such as the Michael Kilner Foundation and the FWP Foundation, as well as the State Wildlife Grants.

**CHAIRMAN KASTEN** asked for further explanation of future funding. **Jane Hamman** referred him to Page 117 of the Governor's Budget Book.

**SEN. ZOOK** expressed additional concern of an FTE shortage with the addition of new buildings. **Jeff Hagner** said that FWP can move FTE from one area to another if needed.

**{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 17.3 - 30}**

**REP. WITT** asked how many funding source numbers have access to funding for the activities in HB 5. **Jeff Hagner** responded that there are 16 state special revenue accounts, four federal special revenue accounts, and 1 private. **REP. WITT** referred to Page 94 and asked for the range of funding account numbers.

**Jane Hamman** explained that there is not a range of numbers; a new number is simply assigned to an account, based on the next number available. The list of the 16 funding sources is available on Pages 6-9 of the Governor's Budget Book.

**SEN. ZOOK** asked about habitat access and acquisition with regard to tax consequences. **Don Childress, FWP**, answered that in order to gain tax benefits, the easement has to be in perpetuity. He added that they advise the people to work with their tax advisors and their attorneys.

**Bob Raney** had a few questions regarding the Future Fisheries and the River Restoration account. He added that, in the past, the money came from the general license account; it is now earmarked to come from the RIT program. **Chris Hunter, Fisheries Division Administrator**, discussed those questions.

**{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 12.4}**

**CHAIRMAN KASTEN** asked where the funds for future fisheries come from. **Chris Hunter** said they come from the River Restoration

fund, the Resource Indemnity Trust (RIT) fund, and some general license funds.

**Jane Hamman** referred the Committee to Page 66 of the Governor's Budget Book. She also explained that if HB 177 passes, it would further reduce the funding from \$700,000 to \$500,000.

**REP. WITT, Jeff Hagner, Bob Raney, and CHAIRMAN KASTEN** discussed SEN. KITZENBURG's bill and the funding for community ponds. They referred to Page 78 in the Governor's Budget Book. **Jeff Hagner** added that in the two FWP acquisition accounts, as of FY 2002 there was \$8,204,084.

**CHAIRMAN KASTEN** closed the hearing on HB 5.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:00 A.M.

---

REP. DAVE KASTEN, Chairman

---

CJ JOHNSON, Secretary

DK/CJ

**EXHIBIT** (j1h32aad)